

and commitment to community in the North Country.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I would like to thank these first responders for their lifesaving actions and their commitment to safeguarding the community every day.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. JOHN C. LAW

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

Mr. LIEU. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of Mr. John C. Law, who passed away on January 20, 2022. John, a resident of the City of Santa Monica, was a beloved husband, father, and champion of affordable, high-quality health care.

John dedicated his life to serving others and was a generous philanthropist in the Los Angeles community throughout his time on the Board of Directors at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, which he joined in 1997. He loved Los Angeles for its dynamism and diversity, and it was of great importance to him that the board of an esteemed medical institution like Cedars-Sinai reflected this. During his tenure serving Cedars, John championed efforts to bring women and people of color on to the Board of Directors and to better the health and well-being of the Los Angeles community. As President of the Los Angeles Free Clinic, he worked to improve health care quality, access, and outcomes for underserved communities in the region.

John contributed to health care causes and research not only through sweat equity but also through his tremendous generosity. John and his wife made their first gift to Cedars-Sinai in 1992 and contributed frequently to its prostate cancer research and health care leadership funds. An accomplished businessman, he served as president of the Los Angeles County Capital Asset Leasing Corporation and as the Co-Managing Director of Warland Investments, a property development and management company. Before his time in Los Angeles, John resided in Washington, D.C., where he co-founded Bendixen and Law, a family attorney professional corporation in operation for over 40 years.

John is survived by his loving wife, Hope Warshaw and their son, John Law-Warshaw. He had an amazing spirit that was dedicated to serving his family and especially those most in need. He will be greatly missed by his friends, family, and all who know him.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2022

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Courts Improvement Act of 2022. This bill would make several important improvements to the operations of the local District of Columbia courts.

Under the D.C. Home Rule Act, D.C. has no authority to amend title 11 of the D.C. Code

(relating to organization and jurisdiction of the local D.C. courts). This bill only amends provisions in title 11.

First, this bill makes several changes to jury service in the D.C. Superior Court. It ties Superior Court juror pay to the pay jurors receive in federal court. Superior Court jurors are currently paid less than federal jurors. The bill also modernizes juror summonses by giving prospective jurors the option to receive a summons electronically, which will save the court money on postage and staff time. The bill further allows jurors who are 70 years old or older to be excused from jury service if the individual so requests.

Next, this bill allows the local D.C. courts to pay attorneys appointed to represent indigent defendants in criminal proceedings and indigent children in delinquency and need of supervision proceedings up to the amount currently allowed in federal court. The local D.C. courts' current rate is \$42 per hour less than the federal rate. Similarly, the bill eliminates the \$25 hourly rate fixed rate for D.C. Criminal Justice Act investigators and caps the rate at the rate of pay for investigators in the U.S. District Court for D.C. Investigators in federal court in D.C. are currently paid \$65 an hour, and up to \$75 an hour in death penalty and other complex cases.

This bill also would move the appointment and removal of the Register of Wills (ROW) and supervisory responsibilities from the Chief Judge of the Superior Court to the Executive Officer of the D.C. courts. This change would provide the Executive Officer oversight of the personnel for the entire Probate Division, including the ROW, which will improve efficiency in making personnel decisions and in the overall administration of the Probate Division.

While both the federal government and the District of Columbia government have statutory authority to give retroactive pay increase to employees, the local D.C. courts do not have this authority. This bill corrects this deficiency.

The bill also changes references to the Domestic Violence Unit to the Domestic Violence Division, and updates references to individuals with intellectual disabilities. It would also increase the jurisdictional limit of the Small Claims Branch to \$12,000, indexed for inflation.

The bill further provides permanent authority to the local D.C. courts to retain bar examination and admission fees, independent gift authority, permanent procurement authority for motor vehicles and express authority to permit other entities to use their facilities.

Legislation to improve the operations of the local D.C. Courts has been enacted into law several times over the last decade on a bipartisan basis. I hope this bill will likewise be passed in a bipartisan manner.

I urge my colleagues to support this important bill.

HONORING SHENANDOAH COUNTY'S 250TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BEN CLINE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

Mr. CLINE. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following proclamation honoring Shenandoah County's 250th anniversary.

Whereas, Shenandoah County will celebrate the 250th Anniversary of its founding in 2022; and

Whereas, since its first indigenous inhabitants, almost 500 generations have called this area home; and

Whereas, the county, originally known as Dunmore, was established by the Virginia General Assembly on March 24, 1772; and

Whereas the county was renamed Shenandoah in 1778 to reflect the occupants dedication to the Patriot cause during the American Revolution; and

Whereas the fertile lands have shaped the history of this area and allowed Shenandoah County to become a leading agricultural producer; and

Whereas, Shenandoah County has a strong history of local businesses, farms, healthcare, tourism, and manufacturing; and

Whereas, Shenandoah County continues to grow by capitalizing on its distinct character, diverse population, and natural beauty; and

Whereas, Shenandoah County provides its citizens an award winning education system, bountiful job opportunities, and rich quality of life; and

Whereas, Shenandoah County citizens value the County's history, treasured landmarks, neighborly spirit, and vibrant communities; and

Whereas, the first 250 years of Shenandoah County have been fruitful in experiences and forward-looking ventures; and

Whereas, the residents of Shenandoah County will gather to commemorate their storied history and bright future throughout 2022; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the United States House of Representatives that we commend Shenandoah County on the occasion of its historic 250th anniversary; and, be it

Resolved Further, that this resolution be presented to the chair of the Shenandoah County Board of Supervisors as an expression of the U.S. House of Representatives' congratulations, admiration for the County's history and contributions to the Commonwealth, and best wishes in all its future endeavors.

HONORING MR. DAN JOHNSON

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Mr. Dan Johnson, a respected servant leader whose dedicated forty-five year career in municipal government has led to the direct enrichment of numerous communities in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex.

Mr. Johnson earned his bachelor's degree in Political Science from Austin College and his master's degree in Public Administration from the University of North Texas where he was later named the recipient of the 1995 Distinguished Alumni award. Additionally, Dan is a graduate of the prestigious Public Executive Institute of the LBJ School of Public Affairs.

For several years, Johnson held a variety of municipal government positions throughout North Texas, including past service as the City Manager and Deputy City Manager for the City of Carrollton, as the Director of Regional Services at the North Central Texas Council of

Governments, and as a Budget Officer for the City of Sherman.

In 1996, Dan began his impressive 25-year career with the City of Richardson serving as the Deputy City Manager and Chief Operating Officer from 1996 until he was appointed City Manager in 2012. His active role in economic development initiatives would be instrumental in fostering the prosperity of communities throughout Collin County.

As a testament to the admiration Johnson has garnered in the community, his past leadership roles include serving as the President of several organizations including the Urban Management Assistants of North Texas, and the Texas City Management Association. Other notable positions include his current service on the Methodist Richardson Medical Center Advisory Board, the University of Texas at Dallas Development Board, the Advisory Council for the UT Dallas School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences, and as the Treasurer and Board Executive Committee Member of the North Texas Commission.

Now as Dan Johnson prepares to begin a new season of life following his illustrious career, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing him for his dedication and many contributions to the betterment of the North Texas region.

REMEMBERING GEORGIANA BRUNET

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Mrs. Georgiana Smith Brunet, who found her heavenly wings on February 9, 2022 at the age of 97 years old. She was known to many as the Matriarch of Algiers, Louisiana, and was recently honored as the oldest serving community activist in my hometown. Affectionately called "Bunny," she dedicated her entire life to her family, faith, and community.

Mrs. Brunet attended Illinois State University and the Booker T. Washington Nursing Program of New Orleans. She was married to her late husband Mr. Bernard Brunet, Jr. for 37 years and together they had five children, her pride and joy.

A devout Catholic, Mrs. Brunet was an active parishioner of All Saints Church for over 71 years where she served on the Social Outreach Committee as well as the All Saints Sodality. She was a member of the All Saints Rosary Group/Legion of Mary for over 40 years. In 2012 her lifelong commitment earned her the prestigious Order of St. Louis IX Medallion, an award which honors laypersons who have contributed their time and talents to the church. The award was presented by Archbishop Aymond, the Archdiocese of New Orleans at St. Louis Cathedral.

Mrs. Brunet became an active community advocate for the Algiers area, while working as a Pediatric Nurse within the community over her 30 years. Mrs. Brunet's community activism was also celebrated when she was honored at the Algiers Courthouse in 2012 for her volunteer work.

Mrs. Brunet left a lasting mark on many of the organizations she actively participated in

including the Ladies Auxiliary of Peter Claver St. Rita's Court 36, 3rd and 4th degree, serving as Treasurer; the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) Auxiliary; Fan Advisory Committee of her beloved New Orleans Saints; Girl Scouts of America, and Krewe of NOMTOC ("New Orleans Most Talked of Club").

Mrs. Brunet was lovingly known as "Mother Jugs" for her work establishing the Krewe of NOMTOC and the Jugs Social Club, of which her husband was a co-founder and President. Nothing stood in her way of preparing and enjoying the Krewe of NOMTOC on parade Saturdays.

Mrs. Brunet kept busy following the activities of the New Orleans Council on Aging, attending events at the Arthur Monday Senior Center, craft-making, cooking, lobbying the State Legislature, and event planning.

Beyond her work, Georgiana had a vibrant social life. She was truly the life of the party and would carefully plan her costumes weeks in advance. She was a lively character with an undeniable fashion sense, always dressed to the nines on every occasion. Additionally, Georgiana was an avid traveler, visiting most states and several international destinations. She was a lover of politics, people, and fun, and a member of the Golden Girls Social Circle.

Algiers, Louisiana will never be the same without her. Her poise, talents and enduring love of everyone she touched will live in our hearts forever. We will all be better citizens because of the mark she left on each of us.

CELEBRATING U.S.-UZBEKISTAN PARTNERSHIP

HON. DON BACON

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

Mr. BACON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the enduring friendship between the United States and Uzbekistan, and to recognize the 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations between our nations, including the 20th anniversary of the U.S.-Uzbekistan Strategic Partnership. Uzbekistan plays a fundamental role in the development of an independent, resilient, and democratic Central Asia. It is a burgeoning force for regional economic growth and a vital partner in strengthening regional stability and cooperation.

Since Uzbekistan's independence in 1991, with the fall of the Soviet Union, the United States and the international community have witnessed Uzbekistan emerge from what was once considered one of the world's most isolated and repressive countries into a nation of noteworthy transformational improvements.

Today, Uzbekistan strives to modernize and liberalize the economy; streamline its bureaucracy; ease political tension; address human rights concerns; and engage with the international community, attracting foreign investment. Our friendship continues to flourish. In 2019, the U.S. Department of Commerce led its first certified trade mission to Uzbekistan to discuss advancing trade opportunities between the two countries, and to open new markets for U.S. business interests.

In 2021, the U.S. Department of State and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic

of Uzbekistan launched a successful inaugural meeting of the U.S.-Uzbekistan Strategic Partnership Dialogue in Tashkent, inspiring a continued constructive exchange on critical issues.

I will continue to be a friend of Uzbekistan and support the great strides Uzbekistan has made to democratize. I look forward to a long and mutually beneficial relationship between our two nations.

COMMEMORATING THE LYLES CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL CENTEN- NIAL

HON. LARRY BUCSHON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

Mr. BUCSHON. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the completion of the Lyles Consolidated School located in Gibson County, Indiana. This school served as a cornerstone of Lyles Station, a town that began as an African American farming settlement, until its closure in 1955 and again today as a museum where the history of the site and town are preserved.

Throughout its history, the Lyles Consolidated School produced exemplary graduates including; Alonzo Fields, the Chief Butler for Presidents at the White House for 21 years, Burniss Priestly, a member of the Tuskegee Airmen, Aaron Fisher, the most decorated African American soldier from Indiana to serve in World War I, and Matthias Nolcox, the first principal of Indianapolis' Crispus Attucks High School.

It wasn't until 1999 when this outstanding piece of our history was recognized and protected by being added to the National Register of Historic Places, an important step in preserving the building after it had fallen to disrepair after closure. Today, the Lyles Station Historic School and Museum continues the tradition of educating visitors on the contributions, struggles, and achievements of the African American Hoosiers who studied and lived here. The school is filled with period-correct seating, books, and other materials that help bring the site to life for those that visit.

I am grateful to the Hoosiers that painstakingly work to preserve this part of our history, and encourage my colleagues and all of their constituents to come visit southern Indiana so that they can stop by the Lyles Station Historic School and Museum to recognize their centennial and contributions to the United States.

RECOGNIZING DR. BARBARA SHANNON-BANNISTER

HON. JASON CROW

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

Mr. CROW. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Barbara Shannon-Bannister for receiving the Spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Award from Aurora Community of Faith, and for her lifelong service to our community.

The Spirit of MLK Award is presented to an individual who emulates the values, ideas, dreams, and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King,